

ANNUAL MEETING

## VICKERS LIMITED

GROUP'S MANIFOLD ACTIVITIES

SIR RONALD WELLS' REVIEW

The 1953-1954 Annual Meeting of Vickers Limited was held on May 14th at the Grosvenor Hotel, London. Sir Ronald Wells, K.C.B., C.B.E., D.F.C., M.C., D.D., was the chairman of the meeting.

A detailed review by the chairman of the group's activities had been circulated to members with the report and accounts for the year ended December 31, 1953. In the course of which it was stated:-

Throughout 1953 the two shipyards of Vickers-Armstrongs were successful in improving upon the amount of business that had been made in the previous year.

A factor in the success of the yards has been the modernisation of the yards, which was completed at the Barrow Yards in 1952 and at Barrow in 1953.

The ten ships launched from the two shipyards had a gross tonnage of 13,000 tons.

The Barrow Yards once again had an outstanding year, when three passenger liners, two cargo ships, and three tankers were built. Of these, two cargo ships and one tanker were completed in the year.

Of the four passenger liners ordered in 1953, three are now in service, "City of London" and "City of York" and "City of Port Elizabeth", which made her maiden voyage in January, 1954.

During the first half of the year the roll of certain naval vessels was completed, and additional work in this sector has been taken in hand.

There has been a marked falling off in the volume of orders and the number of new contracts for new tonnage has continued.

Orders at the end of the year included a considerable volume of work for the Admiralty, 11 cargo and passenger liners, and 18 large oil tankers for owners at home and abroad.

While the number of forward bookings for 1954, taken at the present time, is not as good as it is normal, there is no doubt that the volume of work which has been secured for a long time is no longer available. At the same time, the large dry dock remained fully employed until November. The maintenance of the "Queen Mary" and "Queen Elizabeth" and the "Queen Mary II" and "Queen Elizabeth II" was completed at the end of the year.

The work completed at the yards included the construction of a new forward for the British Railways "Duke of York".

Foreign repair work, which is a business in quite short supply, has been very successful during the latter half of the year.

**AVIATION**

The production lines for three major types of aircraft—Vickers, Viscount and Jetstream—have been built up and additional flying hours have been secured. The production of the Viscount has been increased to meet the demand for this aircraft.

The year has seen the Viscount in service with the Royal Air Force and the Royal Canadian Air Force. It is also in service with the Royal Air Force and the Royal Canadian Air Force.

Work has started in our experimental shops in the production of a new type of aircraft, the Vickers Jetstream, which is a small, light aircraft, designed for the private owner. It is a two-seater aircraft, with a maximum speed of 150 m.p.h.

**ROAD AND RAIL TRANSPORT**

The Metropolitan-Carmichael, Vickers and Vickers Company Limited, which is a subsidiary of Vickers Limited, has been successful in securing orders for a new type of road transport vehicle, the Vickers Road Transporter. This vehicle is a small, light vehicle, designed for the private owner. It is a two-seater vehicle, with a maximum speed of 150 m.p.h.

Over 75 per cent of the value of output was produced for export. The main export markets are the United States, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, and South Africa.

**ENGINEERING**

The contribution of engineering to the volume of the country's output has grown steadily in recent years, and it is expected to continue to do so in the future. The engineering industry is a major contributor to the country's output, and it is expected to continue to do so in the future.

The production of Centurion tanks, which are being produced for the Royal Air Force, has been successful. The production of the Centurion tanks has been increased to meet the demand for this aircraft.

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**EXPORTS AND OVERSEAS**

In March 1954, our friends in the United States, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, and South Africa, have been successful in securing orders for a new type of road transport vehicle, the Vickers Road Transporter. This vehicle is a small, light vehicle, designed for the private owner. It is a two-seater vehicle, with a maximum speed of 150 m.p.h.

On the 14th of May, 1954, the Vickers Road Transporter was launched. It is a small, light vehicle, designed for the private owner. It is a two-seater vehicle, with a maximum speed of 150 m.p.h.

**PERSPECTIVES**

Although it is not yet possible to say what the future of the industry will be, it is expected that the industry will continue to grow in the future. The industry is a major contributor to the country's output, and it is expected to continue to do so in the future.

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Ships Ordered

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